IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

ISABELA SNEED, Plaintiff, Vs. Case No. 22-cv-00031-R
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16 OF PAYNE COUNTY, Defendant.

DEPOSITION OF VICTOR GONZALEZ

DATE: MARCH 1, 2023

REPORTER: MARISA SPALDING, CSR, RPR

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but...

Q Okay. So I had heard that about his claim that he had led the --

A Yeah.

Q -- walkout. I haven't really looked much into it.

A He did a bunch of stuff on Face -- all he did was talk a lot on Facebook.

Q Okay. Big talker?

A Big talker, nothing doer.

Q Okay.

A No money where your mouth is.

Q I understand. I understand what you're saying. You guys weren't friends, correct?

A No.

Q Okay. I want you -- and I know you've not been there and it's been some time since this happened, okay? But I really want you to try to go back, use your memory to think about interactions that you observed with him.

There's -- there's a lot of reports from the police reports that he would -- it would be very common for him to have female students in his classroom during break times and then after school. Do you recall ever seeing that?

A The after school, I don't remember. But during break times, yes, and at lunch.

Q Tell me what you remember from break times and at lunch, just based off your own observations, what you remember seeing?

A All I remember is a lot of girls going to his -- even 9th grade girls coming back to the 8th grade hallway to go to his room during breaks, so then they'd be late to their 9th grade class.

Q Okay.

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A And then I remember there was -God, I can't remember his name. I think
he's Irish. He's -- Fieldsend.

O British?

A British. Well --

Q It came up this morning. That's the only reason I know he's British.

A Fieldsend, yes. He'd always have the, well, well, Morejon has got his harem going on over there. I don't know what the heck is going on over there. Q Okay. So I'm glad you brought that up, because that was something I wanted to ask you about, but I didn't want to load you up with too many documents just yet. But since you brought it up, it's kind of a perfect timing to cover it. So take a look -- and this -- it's weird.

But the third page is kind of where it starts. It's an email string. It's Exhibit 15. I'll get you an extra copy. And then the middle page, it looks just to be like some Internet script, but then the first page is the response. And I'll show you as we walk through it. On the last page, there's a post from Morejon and he says -- I'm right here on this third page?

A Okay.

Q He says: During FTC -- or excuse me. During PTC, whenever I was being a dedicated baseball coach and working for \$2 an hour, someone came into my room and, quote, looked (sic) slash stole my Hawaiian license plate. I honestly forgot about this, but the kids have put me into depression today and I randomly remembered

the one thing that makes me smile during the day, the rainbow on the license plate.

If anyone has seen this license plate, please return. I'm really missing it. And if you look on the first page, our friend from across the pond says -- Trevor -- sorry.

A Trevor Fieldsend.

Q Fieldsend, yeah.

A Maybe one of your 9th grade female incurred -- entourage took it for a souvenir.

Q Right. It says: Maybe one of your 9th grade female entourage took it for a souvenir?

A That is -- yeah, that's Fieldsend.

Q This seems to be kind of consistent with what you had testified to about your 9th grade female harem, right?

A Uh-huh, they just keep coming. It was weird. It was odd.

Q Yeah, so as a person who is in education, right, and you're observing this, it sounds like it was a situation that was outside of the norm; that it was

odd, just based on your view of the 1 situation; is that fair? 2 Α Yes. 3 Okay. Do you know Fieldsend very 0 4 well? 5 Just from --Α 6 Coworkers? 0 7 А Coworkers and we'd -- sometimes we 8 had lunch together, I mean --9 Okay. But --10 O -- because we sat in the same room, 11 so you always have that -- I mean, you 12 can't laugh. But, you know, British humor, 13 come on. 14 I -- I appreciate it as well. 15 you guys weren't like buddies outside of 16 school? 17 Α No. 18 Okay. Other than Fieldsend saying 19 to you, look at Morejon with his harem of 20 girls, what else -- do you have any other 21 specific recollections of him talking to 22 you about any concerns beyond that? 23 MR. PRIDDY: Object to the form. 24 The only thing I THE WITNESS: 25

would say was I think I recall once, that's 1 probably not a good idea and it's probably 2 going to get him in trouble at some point. 3 (By Mr. Smolen) By having all the 4 young girls in his classroom? 5 А Yes. 6 Okay. During the breaks and during 0 7 the lunchtime? 8 Α Yeah. 9 Okay. Do you know or do you recall 0 10 what Trevor did at the school, like what 11 his position was? 12 He was -- at one point, he was shop 13 teacher, but then he -- because they kind 14 of eliminated that type of stuff. He was 15 the engineering... 16 Someone said that --0 17 At one point, he was like right Α 18 across from the hall from --19 From Morejon? 0 20 -- Morejon. Α 21 Okay. So he would have been --22 Q So this side all -- it's not, I A 23 mean, him and the -- the typing or computer 24 teacher would also see that all the time.

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1 A Right.

Q Okay. There's been testimony prior to your deposition that it wouldn't be uncommon for kids to go spend time with a faculty member during the lunch hour maybe to catch up on some schoolwork or to get some extra assistance. But that generally, that — that process was tracked through an administrator who was in the cafeteria who would allow the student to go?

A To go, yes.

Q Is that also consistent with your memory?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Is it fair to say that if Morejon had a lot of girls in his classroom during the lunch hour, that somebody would have been aware of it through the practice at the school in receiving permission to go from the cafeteria or the eating lunch area to his room?

A I would think so, yes.

Q Okay. And did you ever have the responsibility of monitoring the cafeteria or lunch room?

Α I monitored the front, but I didn't 1 do the hallway, so I -- all I did was try 2 and keep the chaos calm. Because whenever 3 I was there, we -- at -- we had every -- we 4 had just -- what was it? Two lun -- two 5 lunch -- no, three lunch periods, but we 6 had split -- I know they had split it up 7 before I left. We had two -- the three 8 lunch periods, but we had an A part and a B part, which cut down on the number of people that you had in there, because before it was --

0 Crazy?

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-- jam packed. I mean, it was hard to keep track of.

Okay. There was some testimony 0 yesterday from Mr. Fields, the former principal --

Α Uh-huh.

-- that he thought that generally there'd be an administrative level employee who was kind of granting students the ability to leave and go to the -- down the hall to the classrooms. Is that consistent with your memory?

The cell phone policy was -- well, Α phones they're supposed to be off whenever the teacher is talking is --Okay. O -- what they're doing. Okay. Do you remember if there was any kind of written policy or even an unwritten practice as it pertained to -- or an expectation, so to speak, as it pertained to students having communications with faculty, their teachers, over social media? For the most part, I know out of Α practice, it shouldn't happen. I would have thought that --I mean, you can see that in your -in -- in classes that you take, that it's a fine line. You should not interact. It's a bad idea, right? Α (Moving head up and down) I'm just curious if you ever O remember anyone at Stillwater Public Schools saying, hey faculty, you can't talk

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to students over social media?

Not directly.

Okay. Do you ever remember anyone O 1 at Stillwater Public Schools telling you, 2 hey guys, if a student contacts you over 3 social media, here's what you're to do? 4 Α No. 5 Yesterday I took the deposition of 6 the former principal, who I understand had 7 been asked to resign his employment. 8 you -- you were there at that time, 9 correct? 10 Α Uh-huh. 11 MR. PRIDDY: Object to the form. 12 (By Mr. Smolen) What do you recall O 13 or what do you -- even if it's not direct 14 knowledge, okay, I want a general 15 understanding of what your knowledge is 16 about why he was asked to resign or what 17 brought about the end of his employment 18 with the school district? 19 MR. PRIDDY: Object to the form. 20 THE WITNESS: Do you want the 21 incident? 22 (By Mr. Smolen) I want everything 23 you know about it. And -- and if you -- if 24

you had direct knowledge of it, I'd like to

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And do you recall if it was the HR Q 1 Director that told you, look, those are our 2 files; we're not okay with that? 3 No, it was the assistant 4 superintendent. 5 Q Okay. And who was that at the time? 6 Cathy Walker. Α 7 And was she the assistant 0 8 superintendent the entire time that --9 А Yes. 10 -- you recall these negotiations 11 happening over those three years? 12 Α Yes, those three times I brought it 13 up, yes. 14 Okay. And when do you think -- if 15 you could give me your best estimate on 16 timing wise, okay, what years do you think 17 that it was that you were bringing that up? 18 Probably from about 2018/2019 up to 19 -- because last year I didn't do 20 negotiations. So it would be the year 21 before that, 2021. 22 Okay. So 2018, 2019 through 2021? 23 Q Α Yes. 24 Gotcha. Now, how did you come to 25 Q

know about the secret files that were 1 maintained that were not part of the actual 2 employee's personnel file? How did you 3 come to learn about those? 4 MR. PRIDDY: Object to the form. 5 THE WITNESS: More than 6 anything, I mean, it just -- by word of 7 mouth and what I found out from other 8 people as far as involvement like Fields' 9 case and stuff like that. 10 (By Mr. Smolen) Okay. Tell me 0 11 about -- did you have a concern that there 12 might be information out there about 13 faculty members that only certain people 14 knew that was not being actually put into 15 their personnel files as well? 16 Α Yes. 17 Okay. I understand that you were 18 wanting, look, after seven years --19 I was looking at -- yeah, I was Α 20 wanting there to be a fair start and a fair 21 way of looking at things. 22 Transparency? 23 Q Right. Α 24 With a limitation on, hey, maybe Q 25

tried to -- at one point, they gave me the reasoning that they needed to keep these files because it was just something that they kept and it was always done. And then they gave me the example that those things are done on a corporate level and all this other -- so basically trying to justify why they needed to keep them.

Q Okay.

A And then, of course, they said that's -- we're not going to go there.

Q Okay. I'm taking by -- we don't have a camera here on you. But I'm taking by your body language and your facial responses that you -- you weren't real thrilled about that decision?

A No, I was not.

Q Okay. When we talk about it at the Stillwater level -- and that's what we've been talking about, okay? I can appreciate that. But did you have knowledge that that was a common practice at other school districts as well, the keep -- the maintaining of a secret file or was it just at Stillwater?

The only place I ever heard about it Α 1 I mean, I had taught for eight was here. 2 years in Houston at Fort Bend ISD, but I 3 mean, it's a huge district. So, I mean, I don't know. 0 You don't have knowledge of that happening at other school districts in Oklahoma? Α No. Fair? Q That's fair. Α It was unique to Stillwater? 0 Α Yes. As far as you know? Q Α As far as I know. Okay. When you worked at Houston, Q did they have secret files that weren't part of an employee's personnel file? That I know of, no. Okay. I want to talk with you --0 you kind of gave me the general background, and I really appreciate that on the education association. When it comes to the specific incident with Principal

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Fields, okay?

1	A Yes.
2	Q But what you observed was Principal
3	Fields just falling over a bench and not
4	actually assaulting someone?
5	A And the kid falling over the the
6	kid falling back and then the well,
7	that's how.
8	Q It looked like a fall as opposed
9	A Exactly.
10	Q to an attack?
11	A Exactly.
12	Q But then you also understood that
13	after that incident that happened that you
14	witnessed, that there were historical
15	records that had been maintained in a
16	secret file, not part of Principal Fields'
17	personnel file, that were ultimately used
18	to put him in a bad light, to bring about
19	his resignation?
20	MR. PRIDDY: Object to the form.
21	Q (By Mr. Smolen) Is that right?
22	A Right.
23	Q Okay, I gotcha. I totally
24	understand that.
25	A Because somebody may have not liked

his position or the way he did things. 1 Someone who might have known about 0 2 the secret file, might have used the secret 3 file to get Mr. Fields out of his position 4 and get someone in there that they wanted, 5 right? 6 Object to the form. MR. PRIDDY: 7 THE WITNESS: Yes. 8 (By Mr. Smolen) That was the idea? Q 9 Α Yes. 10 Okay, gotcha. Did you know one way Q 11 or the other whether or not there was a 12 secret file on you? 13 No, I didn't. 14 Okay. Do you know if these files 15 that were secret and not part of the 16 personnel file were maintained 17 electronically or just in writing -- just 18 in paper? 19 Α I don't know. 20 MR. PRIDDY: Object to the form. 21 THE WITNESS: I don't know. 22 Hold on. My phone --23 Do you need to take MR. SMOLEN: 24 it? 25

don't see anything wrong, but then we did not know that he was doing what he was doing.

Q Right. But Fieldsend was at least picking up on the fact that this is going to give him problems. He's got a harem of girls in there day after day?

A And it's not like -- everybody had to have known it. I mean, everybody, noticed so I would have thought somebody would have told him, at least the supervisor.

Q Okay. And that you raised a really good point, because when you're looking at this on a day-to-day basis and you guys are in an educational setting and you're doing it for a long time like you've done, sometimes things just become so obvious that certainly someone had to become aware of it, right?

A Uh-huh.

Q Would you describe this situation with Morejon and what Fieldsend described as the harem of girls to be something that was so obvious it would be impossible for

the administration not to be aware that it 1 was going on? 2 Object to the form. MR. PRIDDY: 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. 4 (By Mr. Smolen) And so as far as a 5 reporting requirement might go, you felt 6 like, if I understand your testimony, there 7 was really nothing to report, because it 8 was so out in the open that it was so 9 openly obvious, there was no way the 10 administration didn't know about it. 11 MR. PRIDDY: Object to the form. 12 THE WITNESS: Right. 13 (By Mr. Smolen) Okay. Other than 0 14 the conversation with Fieldsend at lunch 15 that you mentioned, do you recall any other 16 -- and I understand you maybe had more than 17 that conversation. But as far as 18 explicitly having a memory of details of a 19 conversation, do you have any more than 20 that one? 21 No, not really. 22 Α Okay. Let's look at SPS. It is our 23 Exhibit 9. It is Bates labeled SPS 31. 24

MR. SMOLEN:

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And, John, I've got